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COOPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK IN AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AND STATE AGRICULTURAL COLLEGES
COOPERATING.

STATES RELATIONS SERVICE, OFFICE OF
EXTENSION WORK, NORTH AND WEST,
WASHINGTON, D. C.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' CLUB WORK.

INSTRUCTIONS TO LOCAL LEADERS OF BOYS' AND GIRLS' HOME GARDEN AND CANNING CLUBS.

By GEORGE E. FARRELL, *Assistant in Boys' and Girls' Club Work.*

If you are contemplating the organization of home-garden and home-canning clubs in your community, do some preliminary work before mentioning it to the boys and girls: (1) Write to the State club leader, at the State agricultural college, telling what you are planning to do, and ask him what he can do to assist you. The State club leader is employed jointly by the State agricultural college and the U. S. Department of Agriculture, and represents both institutions. (2) If you have a county agent in your county, invite him to cooperate with you in making plans for the work. (3) Write the county superintendent of schools and secure his cooperation:



FIG. 1.—Omega Garden Club boys, "Soldiers of the Commissary Army," in hoe drill before starting the day's work.

When you have received replies from these persons, call together eight or ten interested people, and with them make plans for a public meeting of adults and children. This meeting should be well advertised and the purpose plainly stated. If you desire the services of the State club leader for this meeting, arrangements should be completed with him, a month in advance. Request for the services of the county agent or county superintendent of schools should be made two weeks in advance. A successful club leader or member from a neighboring club will strengthen this program. A miscellaneous program presenting many subjects will defeat the purpose of this meeting. At the close of the meeting, request all those interested in the garden and canning club work to assemble on the front seats for further discussion. Secure the name and address of parents and children who remain for this discussion. These preliminary arrangements should be completed early in the winter.

THE STATE LEADER, ASSISTANTS, AND SPECIALISTS.

The State club leader and assistants will assist the local community to plan the program for the year; will supply the club with blank forms, printed follow-up instruction, and special training for the local leader. A specialist in garden work will assist in follow-up work and will train the local leader in subject matter.



FIG. 2.—Club plats and members need personal visits, help, and encouragement from local leaders and garden specialists.

PRELIMINARY MEETING.

Call together the boys and girls between the ages of 10 and 18 years, inclusive, who have expressed a willingness to join the garden and canning club, and explain to them the requirements for membership in the club as follows:

Each club member must—

1. Plant and care for a home garden.
2. Attend club meetings, field instruction tours, exhibits, demonstrations, and festivals.
3. Can the surplus for winter use.
4. Make an exhibit.
5. Assist in public demonstrations.
6. Keep complete records of receipts and expenditures on project.
7. Execute faithfully the follow-up instructions.

ORGANIZATION MEETING.

Before the garden and canning club is organized, each member should be required to sign the pledge card, and to have his plat of ground. The following officers should be selected: President, vice president, and secretary-treasurer. The secretary-treasurer should prepare at once a list of officers and members and mail it immediately to the State club leader.

RECORDS.

There are two general methods of keeping project records: (1) The member keeps in his notebook the record for the entire year and reports to the local leader; or (2) the member keeps a record and reports to the secretary-treasurer receipts and expenditures at each club meeting.

UNIFORMS.

The four-leaf clover with the four H's upon the leaves has come to be the recognized emblem of boys' and girls' club work. It represents a large and growing national fraternity that is known and recognized throughout the United States. For demonstration work each club member should have a club uniform displaying the club emblem.



FIG. 3.—Every garden club plat should have a club sign.

CLUB MEETINGS.

A program for each club meeting should be prepared in advance, and should be divided into three parts, as follows: 20 minutes for business session; 40 minutes for study and discussion of subject matter; 30 minutes for play, contest, and recreation. The meeting should adjourn promptly. It is a mistake to keep children away from home long, or to continue the meeting until a late hour. Meetings should convene and adjourn as promptly as a school, so that parents may know when the children are expected to go and when they may expect them to return.

The following series of program will be suggestive:

FEBRUARY.

1. (Twenty minutes.) Organization of club; election of officers; local leader instructs officers in duties. Report from club members; (a) signing of pledge card; (b) home garden plat.
2. (Forty minutes.) Study and discussion of subject matter. Explanation of club requirements by local club leader: (a) attendance at meeting by club member; (b) record to be kept by club member; (c) membership in demonstration team; (d) improving soil fertility and tilth; (e) planning gardens. (In a well-conducted meeting, the club members do most of the talking.)
3. (Thirty minutes.) Play contests and club recreation. Planning and practicing games related to garden work.

MARCH.

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call; report of members to secretary; exhibit of record book and discussion of entries.
2. (Forty minutes.) Planning the garden for succession of crops. Each member makes a "layout." Proper varieties to plant. Seed boxes; transplanting.
3. (Thirty minutes.) Lunch—cocoa and sandwiches.

APRIL.

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call; members report to secretary; exhibit of record book and discussion of entries.
2. (Forty minutes.) Spading or plowing; fertilizing; early crop vegetables; training demonstration team; inspect plant diseases; spraying.
3. (Thirty minutes.) Guessing contests. Each member to describe a garden plant or product without naming; others to guess name and variety.

MAY.

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call; members report to secretary; exhibit of record book and discussion of entries. Four-hour (afternoon) field instruction tour; (a) plotting a garden; (b) freedom from weeds; (c) straight rows; (d) cultivation; (e) drainage; (f) box-plant hardening.
2. Camp or picnic supper—fresh vegetables, sandwiches, outdoor games.

JUNE.

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call; members report to secretary; exhibit of record book and discussion of entries.
2. (Forty minutes.) Demonstration on home canning by demonstration team.
3. (Thirty minutes.) Discussion of the demonstration and equipment for home canning.

JULY.

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call; members report to secretary; exhibit of record book and discussion of entries.
2. (Forty minutes.) Demonstration by club team; drying of vegetables.
3. (Thirty minutes.) Making demonstration aprons and caps—one set of white the other of khaki cloth.

AUGUST.

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call; members report to secretary; exhibit of record book and discussion of entries.
2. (Forty minutes.) Discussion of plans for exhibit; making premium list; demonstration team; judging team; canning difficulties.
3. (Thirty minutes.) Three-minute stories by members; "The Most Interesting Thing About My Garden."

SEPTEMBER.

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call; members report to secretary; exhibit of record book and discussion of entries.
2. (Forty minutes.) Marketing garden produce; grading, bunching, washing, canning; 4-H brand labels.
3. (Thirty minutes.) Canning recipes to be given out; training for contest in apple or potato paring.

OCTOBER.

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call; report to secretary; exhibit of record book and discussion of entries.
2. (Forty minutes.) Discussion of premium list; preparation of exhibit; club judging contest.
3. (Thirty minutes.) Potato-paring contest.

NOVEMBER.

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call; members report to secretary; exhibit of record book and discussion of entries.
2. (Forty minutes.) Storage of root and tuber vegetables for winter use; season's report to State club leader; story of "How I Made My Crop."
3. (Thirty minutes.) Club feast—home canned and dried food products.

DECEMBER.

1. (Twenty minutes.) Roll call; members report to secretary; exhibit of record book and discussion of entries; season's report turned over to secretary.
2. (Forty minutes.) Four-minute stories by members on "Successes and Failures in Garden and Canning Work." Election of new members to the club for the coming year.
3. Reception to new members; refreshments.

ACHIEVEMENT DAY.

Address—Youth Achievement in Education. By a business man who can inspire, entertain, and give a real message.

Address—Gardening as a Hobby. By a gardener-business man.

Address—Home Canning to Eliminate Waste. By a club member.

Three-minute speeches (five) by club members.

Awarding of achievement medal. By a local club leader, county superintendent of schools, county club leader, or State club leader.

SUMMER CLUB FESTIVAL.

Saturday, July 23, 1916. Center's Grove.

10.00 a. m.—Garden and canning club pageant.

10.45 a. m.—Report of progress by local group leaders and stories of achievement by members.

12.00 p. m.—Picnic dinner by club groups.

1.15 p. m.—Fifty-yard dash, boys under 13.

Fifty-yard dash, girls under 13.

Fifty-yard dash, boys over 13.

Fifty-yard dash, girls over 13.

Potato relay, 4-man team, one-fourth mile.

Potato-paring contest, 6 potatoes. (Speed 25, skill 25, waste 50.)

Needle-threading contest, 7 needles. (Remove thread from spool and knot.) (Speed 30, skill 30, quality 40.)

2.30 p. m.—Ball game, 7 innings, Reds *v.* Blues.

3.30 p. m.—Canning and drying recipe giving contest—one period, cold-pack method to be used in canning. (One from each club; 5 points for each contestant standing at end of contest.)

4.30 p. m.—Gardening and canning spelling contest. 300 words selected from garden and canning literature. One trial; no hesitation; two entrants from each club.

Rules: Five points will be awarded to first in each contest; three points to second, and one point to third, unless otherwise designated.

A 4-H medal or banners will be awarded to the club winning the greatest number of points. A pennant will be awarded for second place, and a pennant for third place.

AUTUMN CLUB AND FAIR FESTIVAL.

September 23-27. School Exhibit Hall.

Club exhibit requirements:

1. All club members are required to exhibit.
2. Only bona fide club members may exhibit.
3. All exhibits must be in the hands of local committee before 9.30 a. m., September 22.
4. Cards will be furnished on which should be written the names and addresses of exhibitors and members of entries for which they intend to compete.
5. No exhibit may be removed before 10 a. m., September 28.
6. All products not removed before 10 p. m., September 28, will be sold and receipts used to defray the cost of the exhibition.
7. An exhibit may be entered in but one class, record books and stories excepted.
8. Ribbons or medals will be granted to first, second, and third prize winners in each class. Bronze 4-H medals will be granted to all who attain the minimum standard determined by committee on awards.
9. All articles must have been grown or produced by exhibitor in whose name they are entered.

EXHIBIT LIST.

1. Four ears sweet corn.
2. Two ears sweet corn and $\frac{1}{2}$ -gallon jar canned sweet corn on cob.
3. Two ears sweet corn, 3 quarts canned corn cut from cob, and record book.
4. Plate of seven potatoes.
5. Half-bushel box of tomatoes.
6. Two 1-quart jars of tomatoes canned whole, plate of seven tomatoes, and club member's record book.
7. Two 1-quart jars of tomatoes canned whole.
8. Pound basket string beans

9. Two 1-quart jar string beans and pound basket of string beans.
10. Pound basket of string beans, two 1-quart jars of canned string beans, and record book.
11. Best record book at exhibit.
12. Ten quarts of products, all different, canned in glass.
13. Twelve No. 3 cans of products, one to be opened for test.
14. Greatest variety of canned vegetables and fruit by club member. (All jars below standard in quality will be barred.)
15. Illustrated story of experience in "Home Canning of Surplus."
16. Illustrated story of "How I Made My Garden."
17. Illustrated story of "Experience in Marketing."
18. Canning contest. One bushel of tomatoes to be canned by each team. Judged on speed, skill, quality of product and appearance of pack. (Each team to furnish all equipment, except stove, tables, and fuel.)
19. Best drawing of garden plan.
20. Best exhibit of garden equipment by member.

For further information in regard to basis of award, special home garden instruction, field meetings, demonstrations, demonstration teams, prizes and premiums to be available to club members, and other special features of interest to the home garden and canning club members, request should be made of the State leader in charge of the boys' and girls' extension work, State agricultural college.

When printed circulars and instructions on home gardening and canning are not available from your State college, write to the States Relations Service, Office of Extension Work, North and West, Washington, D. C., for the NR series of home gardening and canning instructions and Farmers' Bulletins 839 and 841

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